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12 May 1

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT:

Attached "Terms of Reference for a Research Clearing House Within the NSC Staff"

Bob Komer and have followed the development of the attached proposal from its inception and we are all agreed that at worst, it is harmless, and that at best, it may save some duplication in governmental internal and external research.

2. We are prepared to collaborate with the Clearing House and have so informed Gordon Gray and his staff.

ROBERT AMORY, JR.

Deputy Director (Intelligence)

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May 4, 1960

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A RESEARCH CLEARING HOUSE WITHIN THE NSC STAFF

- 1. There shall be established within the NSC Staff structure a small unit which shall have the following functions:
 - a. Keeping the NSC Planning Board, the Operations Coordinating Board, the Special Assistants to the President for National Security Affairs and for Security Operations Coordination and other components of the NSC Staff informed of research being done within and outside the Government which has significant bearing upon their responsibilities for national security policy-making or operations coordination. Emphasis should be upon a high degree of selectivity.
 - b. Facilitating appropriate access within the Government to such research.
- 2. In carrying out the above functions, initial emphasis in the work of this unit will be upon:
 - a. Surveying relevant research work being done in order (1) to determine what research is most relevant and useful to the work of the Planning Board, the OCB, the Special Assistants to the President and the NSC Staff; and (2) to become generally familiar with the contribution that available research can make as well as with the limitations of such research.
 - b. Establishing liaison arrangements with appropriate departments and agencies.
 - c. Developing effective procedures for making such research readily available and most useful to those officials engaged in national security policy-making or operations coordination.
- 3. In order to permit the NSC Staff unit to carry out the function referred to in paragraph 1-a above, departments and agencies will make available to the NSC Staff unit upon request appropriate information regarding relevant research studies. Arrangements for making departmental research studies available to other departments and agencies will be negotiated on a case-by-case basis with the originating department or agency, normally by the other interested departments or agencies or, when necessary in the judgment of the Executive Secretary, NSC, by the NSC Staff unit.

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- 4. As a means of assisting in the accomplishment of paragraph 2-b above, appropriate departments and agencies will be requested to designate an individual to serve as the point of contact between the department or agency and the NSC Staff unit. This individual should be thoroughly familiar with the research of his department or agency and informed as to its national security responsibilities relating to the work of the NSC, the Planning Board and the OCB.
- 5. The NSC Staff unit will not engage in activities which duplicate or conflict with existing arrangements of departmental and agency organizations (such as the External Research Division in State) for maintaining liaison with university and other private research organizations, but will, to the maximum extent feasible, make use of and work through such departmental and agency organizations.